UNFPA BANGLADESH
SITUATION REPORT

Q3 2022 SITUATIONAL REPORT
ROHINGYA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PROGRAMME
COX’S BAZAR
JULY-SEPTEMBER 2022

Image: A SASA!Together volunteer explaining how she uses her knowledge to stop gender-based violence in her community. She is one of 1000s of Rohingya and Bangladeshi community members benefiting from UNFPA Women-Led Community Centers (WLCC) in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh.
UNFPA Bangladesh/Farjana Sultana
UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled.

In Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, UNFPA safeguards the provision of life saving services and targeted life skills enhancement activities to affected Bangladeshi host communities and Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar and Bhasan Char.

Under the 2022 Joint Response Plan ¹ 1.46 million people are targeted for humanitarian assistance. Estimated camp population is 945,953 including the 27,645 inhabitants of Bhasan Char. More than half of the population (52%) are female and within this group an estimated 235,000 are girls under 18 years of age ².

SITUATION OVERVIEW

August 2022 marks 5 year since Myanmar government ignited the 2017 Rohingya crisis. While the acute onset has passed, total humanitarian needs within the camps and host communities in proximity are sustained and commensurate with the evolution of the situation.

The August 2022 surge in military activity and aggression in Myanmar has clearly dashed any hopes of near term repatriation. The overall security situation in the Cox’s Bazar camps is fragile and unstable. Concurrently, in Cox’s Bazar camps, there are increases in reported incidents of violence. Theft and petty criminality are commonplace and there are increased reports of cross border (Myanmar/Bangladesh) trafficking of synthetic stimulants (“Yaba” & “Ice”, both dangerous methamphetamine derivatives). In efforts to prevent and mitigate criminal activity, the Government of Bangladesh maintains operational patrols within and around the camps with support from Rohingya community members. According to data provided through Government authorities, since August 2022, there have been over 20 incidents of targeted violence resulting in death ³. Drug and trafficking networks are suspected to be behind the majority of these incidents.

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¹ Joint Response Plan (JRP), 2022 Inter Agency Coordination Group, Cox’s Bazaar, Bangladesh
² Joint Government of Bangladesh - UNHCR Population Fact sheet Sept 2022
There are indications of increased human trafficking. There were several incidents during the reporting period, where men, women and children were found either in the process of embarking or at navigating at sea. Both Bhasan Char and the Cox’s Bazar camps are touched by this phenomenon. On Bhasan Char, the Bangladeshi Red Cross Society is in the process of training search and rescue teams. UNFPA continues to drive community risk awareness, notably through GBV/Adolescent and Youth programming. The Government of Bangladesh continues to monitor the situation.

Service users in UNFPA supported women-friendly spaces continue to express feelings of lack of security, notably at night, within camp premises. Some community members have mentioned kidnapping is on the rise as gangs seek to extort money from victims’ families. The protection sector continues to monitor, identify and employ mitigating measures to reduce exposure to risk.

No significant events of inter-communal violence (Rohingya-Host) were reported during this period. The Government of Bangladesh has begun restricting access in and out of the camps primarily through reinforced entry/exit points and establishment of fenced perimeters. Nonetheless, there are movements between the communities, notably with regards to accessing health facilities. Despite being located within camp boundaries, UNFPA supported CeMONC facility (Hope Hospital) provides services to both Host and Rohingya communities.

Since the recurrence of Myanmar clashes in the month of August 2022, there are reports of further displacement of Rohingyas towards southern Rakhine state, the Bangladesh border and Indian border. The Bangladesh government has increased patrols and is now limiting access to areas deemed at risk. Within Bangladesh this includes Bandarban hill tracts areas and Bandarban hills and bordering areas of Cox’s Bazar district. Some areas to the south, Teknaf in particular, are receiving particular attention and being closely monitored by Bangladesh security forces. The Government of Bangladesh current position towards any new influxes (of refugees) is categorical. Bangladesh is not opening its border. There are reports of Rohingyas attempting to shelter in the no-man’s land between Bangladesh/Myanmar border zones.

RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS [SRHR]

UNFPA through the SRH working group coordinated the development of a Cox’s Bazar family planning strategy with Government partners and SRH stakeholders (2022-2025) which was approved in October 2022. The family planning strategy implementation plan will guide the increase to voluntary family planning services across the refugee response through 2025.

For the reporting period the SRH team:
- Ensured quality service delivery through support to 22 health facilities and 260 midwives (across health facilities and women friendly spaces) providing lifesaving SRHR services for Bangladeshi host and Rohingya refugee communities.

A Rohingya woman receiving PNC services
● Conducted 23,346 Antenatal Care [ANC] visits.
● Ensured 2,309 Facility Based Deliveries were attended by Skilled Birth Attendants.
● Followed through with 6,049 Postnatal Care [PNC] visits.
● Assisted 5,986 Family Planning visits.
● Managed 1,670 emergency obstetric referrals through UNFPA’s Emergency Response and Transport System. ERTS is a 24/7 network of eight ambulances providing referral services for emergency obstetric and SRHR patients across all 34 camps.
● Ensured 20,630 women and girls had access to integrated GBV/SRH services provision provided by trained midwives operating through UNFPA supported women friendly spaces.
● Trained 67 UNFPA-supported midwives on theoretical and clinical delivery of SRHR services. These midwives are deployed in UNFPA services across Cox Bazar and Bhasan Char.
● Continued to provide leadership and technical guidance to the 40+ member SRH Working Group under purvey of the WHO led health sector.

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN EMERGENCIES [GBViE] - PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

● A total of 39 Women Friendly Spaces (30 in camps and 8 in Host communities in Cox’s Bazar, and 1 on Bhasan Char Island) were operational and providing comprehensive survivor-centered GBV case management services, psychosocial support and lifesaving emergency referrals. Moreover, integrated SRHR services - including family planning and clinical management of rape for survivors were provided by midwives.
● A total of 10 Women-Led Community Centers (WLCC) (7 in Camps, 3 in Host communities) support women, girls, men, and boys with skill development and self-reliance activities and receive life skills training along with GBV awareness information such as GBV prevention tips and reporting mechanisms. In addition to the activities, they also participate in COVID-19 awareness sessions.
● A total of 113873 (76,015 females and 37,858 male) participated in GBV prevention and mitigation sessions through the SASA! Together approach, conducted by the UNFPA Social Mobilization team.
● 3747 (2805 females and 942 male) participants received training on the topics of GBV, MHPSS, women’s leadership, and GBV social mobilization.

GBV SUB SECTOR (GBVSS)

● GBVSS conducted the partner’s programme implementation survey in August which
indicates that GBVSS has a total of 66 partners of which 48.5% are NGOs, 35.3% are INGOs, 11.8% are UN agencies and the remaining are government organizations and Red Cross. The survey also indicated that among 66 partners, a total of 57 organizations are implementing GBV prevention activities including community awareness and outreach sessions, while 32 organizations are providing case management services. GBVSS continues to provide leadership and technical guidance to the 66 partners of the GBVSS. In addition, the interactive 5W dashboard was regularly developed alongside a funding gap analysis and the referral pathways and service facility mapping of 33 camps, has been updated through coordination with GBV camp focal points.

- An orientation on GBV was organized for 55 PERU (Protection Emergency Response Unit) members (Female: 18; Male: 37) on 17 August and 25 August, where members were oriented on basic concepts of GBV, the types of GBV along with its consequences and the referral pathway mechanism. From August 1-2nd, GBVSS in collaboration with IRC, organized a workshop on GBV Standard Operating Procedures which is now in the finalization process.
- A training on Basic Concepts of GBV and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) was conducted from September 5-6th by the GBVSS coordination team in order to provide orientation on concepts, knowledge and mechanisms to prevent and manage GBV & PSEA to the staff of Women-led Organizations, Community based Organizations, local and national NGOs.
- A service facility mapping on GBVIMS and GBVIMS+ was conducted to identify service facilities that are using GBVIMS and GBVIMS+ and assess the readiness of Data Gathering Organizations on the upgrade from GBVIMS to GBVIMS+ system. It is found that 100% of reporting partners have shown an interest in fully moving to the GBVIMS+/Primero system.
- 26 - 29 Sept 2022, GBVSS conducted Training of Trainers (TOT) on Suicide Prevention and Response for frontline workers, in collaboration with Mental Health and Psycho-Social services (MPHSS) WG, IOM and UNHCR.
- GBVSS organized a workshop on GBV coordination mechanisms with GBV Camp Focal Points (CFP) from 13-14 September, to orient the overall coordination structure in the Rohingya response to revise the roles and responsibilities of GBV Camp Focal Points in line with the sector objectives in the JRP 2023.
- Regular monthly meetings were held to analyze the monthly data with the GBVIMS Task Team members for July, where data analysis of the reported cases was conducted and subsequently GBVIMS Monthly fact sheets and GBVIMS Q2 factsheet have been published.
- In order to ensure the capacity of the reporting organizations, GBVSS organized a Training of Trainers (ToT) on GBVIMS+/Primero for the Data Gathering Organizations (DGOs) on 18 -22 September - with the total of 25 participants (21 female and 4 male) to equip the focal points of DGOs with the safe, ethical and quality data collection and reporting mechanisms through using GBVIMS+ platform.
During the reporting period, GBVSS National Field Coordinators mapped 197 women based community groups (i.e. Community Based Protection Group, Women Support Group, Girl Shine, SASA Together! etc.) and 162 other groups (i.e. leader group, caregiver group, life skill group, adolescent boys and girl groups etc.) in Rohingya refugee camps which were formed by GBV actors. A total number of 3,278 women have been working in women based community groups, along with 1,562 women and 497 adolescent girls which have been working in other groups for GBV prevention, risk mitigation and responses which enforced female representation in local community leadership.

**ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH**

Adolescent and youth programming continues to be a key in ensuring safer, more dignified lives for affected populations. In this quarter:

- A total of 1,861 adolescent girls (1,177 Rohingya, 684 host community) aged 10-19 years have been reached through the Girl Shine programme.
- 2,220 adolescent boys (1,500 Rohingya, 720 host community) have been reached through Champions of Change (CoC), UNFPA’s flagship programs for adolescent boys. CoC is committed to reducing gender-based violence supporting peace building and strengthening social cohesion through youth empowerment.
- 968 caregivers (768 Rohingya, 200 host communities) successfully completed UNFPA’s Girl Shine caregiver curriculum.
- UNFPA’s Theater for development offered 499 audio-visual sessions engaging 5,415 community members on diverse issues such as gender-based violence, child marriage, trafficking, sexual reproductive health rights and menstrual hygiene.
- As a co-chair of the Youth Working Group, UNFPA has co-organized a reflection workshop with 32 YWG members to celebrate the 4-year anniversary of the Youth Working Group.
- 1,727 individuals (1,530 females and 197 male) accessed the Alapon helpline service. This service is dedicated to providing remote psychosocial counseling to National hosts and Rohingya community members.
- A total of 6,795 community people from both camp and host communities have been reached through community mobilization which includes message dissemination and community meetings by volunteers.

- With support from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), UNFPA has established 4 Youth centers at Camp 1W, Camp 11, Camp 13 and Cap 15.
- UNFPA has supported capacity building of 94 staff through providing training on life skills and life enhancement curriculum, case management, CCS (Critical Child Survivor), GBV core concept, safeguarding, PSEA. Additionally, UNFPA has organized a training on Rohingya language and culture for the 8 counselors who provide services to Rohingya via Alapon helpline.
COMMUNICATION: DONORS’ VISITS, EVENTS AND ADVOCACY

International Youth Day and World Humanitarian Day Celebration

A story from the Rohingya refugee camps was featured in this Digital Story book - Stories of Youth-Led Transformations from Across Asia and the Pacific. Social media posts were published on UNFPA Asia and the Pacific and UNFPA Bangladesh official pages. Camp level celebration from Cox’s Bazar on the occasion of IYD is also featured on UNFPA Bangladesh, Facebook.

Social media: Website, Facebook 1, Twitter, Facebook 2
Media coverage: Dhaka Tribune, Bangladesh Post, Reliefweb

Commemorated the 5th year of the Rohingya influx through advocacy in national, regional and global forums and platforms

The fifth year of the Rohingya Humanitarian Response in Cox’s Bazar began on August 25. A national, regional, and worldwide collective campaign was launched to boost our advocacy at the national and international levels. Watch the video to learn more about UNFPA’s response in the past 5 years.

UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Natalia Kanem also posted a Tweet.

The social media posts and messaging can be found on UNFPA Global Facebook: GBV_WFS, A&Y digital card, SRHR delivery and FP, Twitter: Tweet GBv, tweet A&Y, tweet SRHR, and Instagram: Post 1

UNFPA Asia and the Pacific campaign posts Facebook: Regional Director’s Op-ː, Twitter, GBV_WFS, A&Y, SRHR, A&Y 2; Instagram, Post 1

The UNFPA Regional Director visited Cox’s Bazar and met with UNFPA’s partners and beneficiaries across the locality. A Social Media post was published on UNFPA Bangladesh Facebook. Social media posts were also published on the UNFPA Asia and Pacific Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn.

SASA!Together success story on how a child bride is advocating to end GBV in her community was published on the UNFPA Bangladesh website, here.
Q3 2022 FUNDING STATUS

By end of Q3 2022, the funding status for UNFPA’s Rohingya Crisis for essential health and protection services for vulnerable women and girls of Cox Bazar district stood as follows:

UNFPA wishes to thank the following Donors for their ongoing support

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